



## Round Rock Public Library System

# Genealogy & Local History News

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### Round Rock gets genealogy & local history librarian

Round Rock, TX- Elizabeth L. Johnston has recently joined the Round Rock Public Library staff as the new genealogy & local history librarian. Johnston, who recently completed her Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Texas at Austin, began working part-time in late August. "The country as a whole has begun to ask about its roots. This interest has made genealogy the fastest growing hobby in the United States, and part of my job is to make sure that when people do come in to begin their search, we have appropriate materials to get them started," says Johnston. For many years, the library has housed the collection of the Williamson County Genealogical Society. "That collection is the core which we will build upon," remarks Johnston, "and we are pleased that the Society maintains their collection in our library."

**1790-1920  
Census**

### See Census Records Online!

Sometime in December, HeritageQuest Online will place all available US censuses from 1790-1920 online with indexes available for 1790, 1800, 1810, & 1870. Future indexes and the 1930 census will be made available next year. RRPL cardholders can go to the Internet stations on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor to use this database. Plans are in the works to make this & many other databases available from home to those with valid library cards.

*RRPL Genealogy & Local History News* is published four times a year to promote the library's genealogy & local history collection and increase awareness of other useful resources outside the collection.

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### 1867-1970 Digital Sanborn Maps Available at Library

One of the newer databases available at the library of interest to genealogists are the Digital Sanborn Maps. These fire insurance maps show detailed property and land-use records. Specific buildings and neighborhoods can be pinpointed. These maps were originally compiled to help assess property values, identify risk factors, and underwrite losses. Just go to an Internet terminal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor or ask at the reference desk to begin mapping out your family's past with these digital maps. Keep in mind that this database will also soon be available from home to those who have valid library cards.

**Chip Hadley** is in charge of Interlibrary Loan here at the library. If you have any questions about ILL, see Chip on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor or e-mail him at [Chadley@round-rock.tx.us](mailto:Chadley@round-rock.tx.us)

## Rent HQ Microfilm

The library has recently joined Heritage Quest's microfilm rental program. For \$3.25 a roll plus \$3.00 Heritage Quest handling charge for each order, you can borrow microfilm from their vast collection. The borrowed microfilm stays at the library for one month and can be renewed for \$3.25 per film for an additional 30 days. The Heritage Quest website at [www.heritagequest.com](http://www.heritagequest.com) lists their microfilm products or look at the Heritage Quest Microfilm Resource Catalog on CD-Rom. This CD is at the reference desk with the genealogy CDs. See Chip on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor to request microfilm.

## Genealogy periodicals

There are many current national level titles available in the genealogy collection. Among them are: *Everton's Genealogical Helper*, *Heritage Quest*, *New England Ancestors*, *New England Historic Genealogical Society Quarterly*, and *the American Genealogist*. New titles that we will be receiving soon include: *GC (Genealogical Computing)*, *Ancestry*, *Family Chronicle*, *Swedish-American Genealogist*, and the *National Genealogical Society Quarterly*.

## RRPL Genealogy Website

The genealogy website is located at <http://www.ci.round-rock.tx.us/library/genealogy.html>.

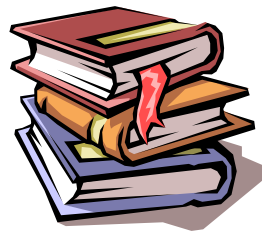
This site is constantly being updated. A list of library census materials in whatever format is available on the site.

There is an updated list of Internet links including local history links for Milam, Lee, and Williamson Counties and genealogies with local area connections. Current projects include adding a "What's New" page and a current events page that will list new additions to the collection and local genealogical events. Have you found a

worthwhile genealogy or local history website? Tell us about it. E-mail Elizabeth Johnston at [ejohnston@round-rock.tx.us](mailto:ejohnston@round-rock.tx.us).

## Williamson Co. Genealogical Society meets in November

The Williamson County Genealogical Society will meet on Thursday, November 11 at 7:30 pm in the library's meeting room A. This month's speaker will be John Miller who will speak on "Organizing & Preparing an Oral History." The Society meets at 7:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month except for August and December in the library's meeting room A. Visitors are always welcome.



**Consider** donating some of your genealogical materials to the genealogy collection. Give your items to either the library, marked genealogy collection, or to the Williamson County Genealogical Society. Consider placing a copy of your historic Round Rock photographs and/or documents in the library's local history collection.

**The genealogy collection** is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor and is available for use anytime the library is open. There are some helpful binders on top of the black microfilm cabinets. They contain a listing of books, CDs, & microfilm in the collection. Feel free to browse the books and periodicals. Ask for the microfilm and CDs at the reference desk.

**Elizabeth L. Johnston**, the genealogy and local history librarian, is available to help with your genealogy reference questions Sat 9:00-2:30, Sun 1:30-5:30, and Mon 3:00-9:00pm. You may also e-mail her at [ejohnston@round-rock.tx.us](mailto:ejohnston@round-rock.tx.us).